

CLAIMS

1. An alternator comprising:
 - a rotor fixed to a shaft so as to rotate with said shaft;
 - a stator disposed so as to surround said rotor, an alternating current being generated in said stator by a rotating magnetic field from said rotor; and
 - a voltage control apparatus for adjusting magnitude of an output voltage of said alternating current generated in said stator,wherein:
 - said voltage control apparatus comprises:
 - a grounded, electrically-conductive heat sink; and
 - a control main body fixed to said heat sink, said control main body including an integrated circuit chip on which a circuit for controlling said output voltage is formed.
2. The alternator according to Claim 1, wherein:
 - a positioning portion for positioning said control main body relative to said heat sink is disposed on said heat sink so as to project from a major surface of said heat sink to which said control main body is fixed.
3. The alternator according to either of Claims 1 or 2, wherein:
 - a blocking portion is disposed on said heat sink between a connector having terminals for electrical connection to an external portion and said integrated circuit chip, said blocking portion blocking electromagnetic noise from said connector.
4. The alternator according to any one of Claims 1 through 3, wherein:
 - said control main body is a molded package in which said integrated circuit chip is enveloped in a resin.
5. The alternator according to Claim 4, wherein:
 - said molded package has a hexahedral shape; and
 - said heat sink has a substantially angular C-shaped cross section and is placed in close contact with at least three surfaces of said molded package excluding a surface from which connecting terminals project.